

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 11, 2009

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 6, 2009

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 13, 2009

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 361**

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**Introduced by Senator Runner**

February 25, 2009

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An act to amend Section 66025.8 of the Education Code, relating to postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 361, as amended, Runner. Public postsecondary education: priority registration: Armed Forces and State Military Reserve service.

(1) Existing law requires the California State University and each community college district, and requests the University of California, with respect to each campus in their respective jurisdictions that administers a priority enrollment system, to grant priority for registration for enrollment to any member or former member of the Armed Forces of the United States for any academic term attended at one of these institutions within 2 years of leaving active duty.

This bill would specify that these priority registration provisions apply to any member or former member of the Armed Forces of the United States who has received an honorable discharge, *a general discharge, or an other than honorable discharge*; and to any member or former member of the State Military Reserve, *but not to those who have received either a dishonorable discharge or bad conduct discharge*. The bill also would define "Armed Forces of the United States" for purposes of the priority registration provisions. By establishing revised requirements relating to student eligibility for priority registration for

community college districts, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(2) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 66025.8 of the Education Code is  
2 amended to read:

3 66025.8. (a) The California State University and each  
4 community college district shall, and the University of California  
5 is requested to, with respect to each campus in their respective  
6 jurisdictions that administers a priority enrollment system, grant  
7 priority in that system for registration for enrollment to any member  
8 or former member of the Armed Forces of the United States who  
9 has received an honorable discharge, *a general discharge, or an*  
10 *other than honorable discharge*; and to any member or former  
11 member of the State Military Reserve, for any academic term  
12 attended at one of these institutions within two years of leaving  
13 state or federal active duty. *A former member of the Armed Forces*  
14 *of the United States or the State Military Reserve who received a*  
15 *dishonorable discharge or a bad conduct discharge is not eligible*  
16 *for priority registration for enrollment pursuant to this section.*

17 (b) (1) For purposes of this section, “Armed Forces of the  
18 United States” means the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine  
19 Corps, National Guard, Naval Militia, Navy, and the reserve  
20 components of each of those forces, including the California  
21 National Guard.

22 (2) As used in this section, “member or former member of the  
23 Armed Forces of the United States” includes, but is not necessarily  
24 limited to, any student who is called to active military duty  
25 compelling that student to take an academic leave of absence.

1       SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that  
2 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to  
3 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made  
4 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division  
5 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

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